

11.9.2025

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**Title**

Occupying a "third space" : research trained professional staff in Australian universities / Judith E.

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**Publication year**

2010

**Source/Footnote**

In: Higher education. - 60 (2010) 2, S. 157 - 169

**Inventory number**

28635

**Keywords**

Ausland : Australien : Hochschulwesen allgemein ; Ausland : Australien : Forschung,

Hochschullehrer ; Hochschule : Verwaltung allgemein

**Abstract**

Despite the expansion and professionalisation of university administration over the past 20 years there has been no scholarly study on the extent to which universities, which promote the value of generic skills from research degrees to prospective research students and their employers, capitalize on the research and transferable skills of PhD graduates later employed in the university sector as professional staff. Findings from this study of research-trained professional staff at one research-intensive Australian university suggests that these professionals are using their research and generic skills in management roles, to the benefit of the university. In the context of the knowledge based economy, this study suggests that universities could benefit from actively targeting the products of their own system for professional roles. (HRK / Abstract übernommen) Berman, Judith E., E-Mail: jberman@admin.uwa.edu.au